

Welcome to the Backbone Trail!

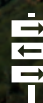
Look west from Los Angeles and you'll see not just the Santa Monica Mountains, but also the gateway to one of America's premier long-distance trails. Stretching 67 miles, the Backbone Trail invites nearby residents to explore surprisingly accessible nature.

Basic Facts

67 MILES ♦ 108 KM

Official Trailheads

12



Highest Point

Sandstone Peak,
Circle X Ranch

3,111 FT

Lowest Point

Ray Miller Trailhead,
Pt. Mugu State Park

25 FT



Distance from LA

20 MILES

from downtown
Los Angeles to Will Rogers
State Historic Park

Longest section that doesn't cross a road

16 MILES

Ray Miller Trailhead to
Mishe Mokwa Trailhead

What can I do?

Of the trail's 67 miles:



Hikers can access all 67



Mountain bikers 43



Equestrians 67

Other activities



Picnicking



Rock climbing



Photography



Birding



Trail running

Dogs



Dogs are welcomed on National Park Service trails, as long as they are leashed and under control.

Camping



There are only a few campgrounds on and near the Backbone Trail. We recommend day hiking in sections rather than attempting a multi-day backpacking trip.

Why should I visit?

The Backbone Trail crosses the best-protected stretch of coastal Mediterranean habitat in the world and offers an amazing diversity of trail experiences. You'll experience deep wooded canyons, rocky outcrop spires, ocean vistas that include the Channel Islands, and sweeping inland views to the San Gabriel Mountains and downtown LA.





What will I see?



Plants



Coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian woodlands, freshwater marshes, oak woodlands, and oak savannas



Wildlife



Coyote, mule deer, red-tailed hawks, turkey vulture, California quail, California towhee, scrub jays, western fence lizards, Pacific rattlesnakes, and king snakes

Where should I go?



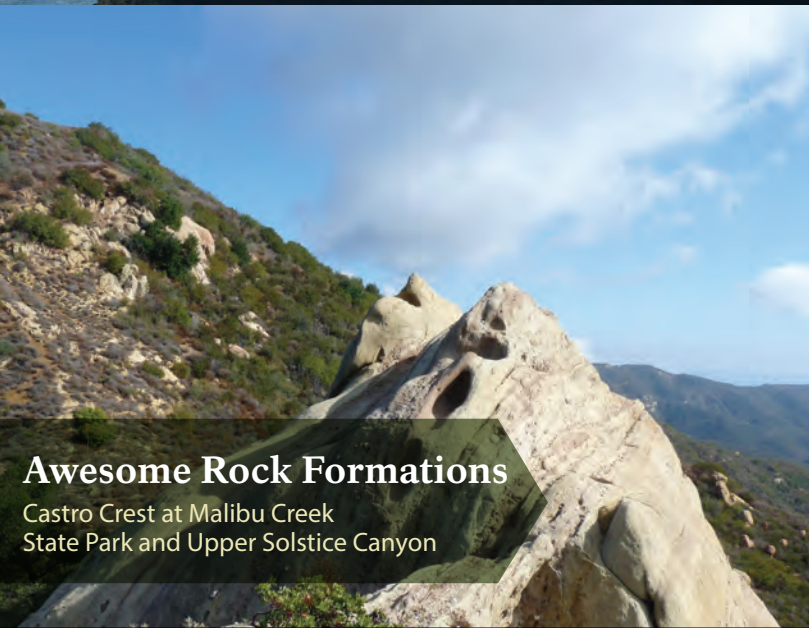
Ocean Views

Ray Miller Trail at
Point Mugu State Park



Summit Ascent

Sandstone Peak
at Circle X Ranch



Awesome Rock Formations

Castro Crest at Malibu Creek
State Park and Upper Solstice Canyon



Hollywood History and Easy Access

Inspiration Point at
Will Rogers State Historic Park

> For more information, visit: www.nps.gov/samo